



# How to Use the Danish National Archive Website

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The Danish National Archives provides access to a variety of records that we use for genealogy. The site is free and does not require registration. Go to the website at: <https://www.sa.dk/en/>

Here are the record types that you will use the most:

## 1. Parish Registers

Click on:

- a. Parish Registers
- b. Kirkebøger fra hele landet (church books from the whole country)
- c. Use the drop down to select a county
- d. Use the drop down to select a parish (archive refers to a collection)
- e. Under Contents you see the options:
  - Enesteministerialbog means the “single copy” of ministerial book. Prior to 1814 parishes kept only 1 copy of the births, marriages, deaths, ect.
  - Hovedministerialbog is the main copy of the ministerial book after 1814.
  - Kontraministerialbog refers to the duplicate copy of the ministerial book. After 1814 each parish was required to create a duplicate of the ministerial book. By law the main book and the duplicate books could not be stored in the same building.
- f. Choose the book you want according to the desired time period.

After you click on one of the books, you see year spans and a few different letters. The letters stand for:

- F – Fødte (Mandkøn male, Kvindekøn female) Birth and christenings
- K – Konfirmerede (Drenge male, Piger female) Confirmations usually done between when a person was about 14 – 17 years old.
- V – Viede, Ægteviede, or Copulerede, Engagement and marriages
- D – Døde (Mandkøn male, Kvindekøn female) Death and burials
- T – Tilgangsliste, Move-in the parish
- A – Afgangliste, Move-out from the parish
- J – Almindeligt Jevnførelses Register is a general index to the book (after 1814)

## 2. Census Records

Click on:

- a. See more
- b. Census lists
- c. Folketællinger (censuses)

After you click this, you see a list of available censuses with years. National censuses were taken: 1787, 1801, 1834, 1840, 1845, 1850, 1855, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1890, 1901, 1911, 1916, 1921, 1930, and 1940.

Here are other key words:

Holsten	For the duchy of Holstein
København	Copenhagen
Købstæder	Cities
Landdistrikter	Rural areas
Slesvig	For the duchy of Schleswig
Sognlister	List of parish names

Click on the year and location of interest. When working in rural areas you will need to choose a county, and parish from the drop down menu.

## 3. Other Record Types

Click on:

- a. See more (from the home page)
- b. Genealogy

This opens a wide variety of records including:

- Lægdsruller fra centraladministrationen and then  
Generalkrigskommissariatet angående Udskrivningsvæsenet, Military  
Levyng Rolls in rural areas.
- Skifter, hele landet, Probates in rural areas
- Skifter fra København, Probates in Copenhagen